## **ABSTRACT**

The invention relates to an orotidine-5'-phosphate decarboxylase gene having the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1 or its homologs, to a gene construct comprising this gene or its homologs, and to its use. The invention additionally relates to vectors or organisms comprising an orotidine-5'-phosphate decarboxylases gene having the sequence SEQ ID NO: 1 or its homologs. The invention further relates to a process for producing uracil-auxotrophic microorganisms and to a process for inserting DNA into uracil-auxotrophic microorganisms.

